

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

4. (Amended) The process according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the raw material particles comprise dry particles obtained by spray-drying a slurry containing the water-soluble component.

5. (Amended) The process according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the amount of the aqueous medium to be brought in contact is from 0.1 to 10 parts by weight as water, based on 100 parts by weight of the raw material particles.

6. (Amended) A process for preparing detergent particles comprising a step of mixing a surfactant composition and the particles for supporting a surfactant obtained by the process according to claim 1 or 2, under conditions that the surfactant composition shows a liquid state.